

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 52 to 53 and add new claims 54 to 55.

42. (Currently Amended) A cleansing method, comprising:

(a) ~~obtaining a first material, the first material containing a polymer having acrylonitrile and at least one of a styrene and conjugated diene providing a cleansing processing agent comprising:~~

a polymer having an acrylonitrile unit;

a unit selected from the group consisting of styrene, conjugated diene, and a combination thereof;

hydrophilic groups being introduced into said acrylonitrile unit by adding an acid or an alkali thereto;

ion groups being introduced into said unit selected from the group consisting of styrene, conjugated diene, and a combination thereof, said polymer comprising 5 to 80 mol% of said unit selected from the group consisting of styrene, conjugated diene and a combination thereof;

(b) ~~contacting the polymer with an acid or an alkali to hydrolyze the acrylonitrile to form hydrophilic substituents in the acrylonitrile and to form a hydrolyzed polymer;~~

(e) (b) ~~contacting the hydrolyzed polymer said agent~~ with a material to be cleaned, the material to be cleaned containing at least one of a heavy metal, ammonia, and amine compound; and

(d) (c) ~~absorbing the at least one of a heavy metal, ammonia, and an amine compound from the material to be cleaned.~~

43. (Currently Amended) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the material to be cleaned is effluent water or an exhaust gas that is passed through a column charged ~~with the hydrolyzed polymer said agent~~.

44. (Currently Amended) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein ~~the hydrolyzed polymer said agent~~ is dispersed into effluent water.

45. (Previously presented) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the material to be cleaned is a solid material.

46. (Currently Amended) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein ~~the hydrolyzed polymer said agent~~ is sprayed onto the material to be cleaned.

47. (Previously presented) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the material to be cleaned is soil in a landfill.

48. (Previously presented) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the material to be cleaned is odor-emitting material.

49. (Currently Amended) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the polymer comprises 5 to 80 mol % of an acrylonitrile unit.

50. (Previously presented) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the polymer is at least one selected from the group consisting of an acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene resin (ABS), a styrene-acrylonitrile resin (SAN), and an acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber (ABR).

51. (Previously presented) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the acid is sulfuric acid.

52. (Cancelled)

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54. (New) A cleansing method, comprising:

contacting a hydrolyzed polymer with a material to be cleaned, the material to be cleaned containing at least one of a heavy metal, ammonia, and an amine compound; and absorbing the at least one of a heavy metal, ammonia, and an amine compound from the material to be cleaned;

wherein the hydrolyzed polymer is prepared by a process comprising

(I) polymerizing monomers to form a polymer, the monomers comprising

- (i) a monomer containing an acrylonitrile group;
- (ii) styrene; and
- (iii) a monomer containing a conjugated diene, and

(II) hydrolyzing the polymer.